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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week
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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

2-22-1957

Gatewood, Verner Lee and John family television script

Howard Langfitt

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W L B T

[Gatewood, Verner Lee and John]

CONTINUITY

FOR Farm Family of the Week

DATE Fri. Feb. 22, 1957

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

SLIDE FARM 1
HOUSE

I WANT TO SAY IN THE VERY BEGINNING THAT I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO SCOTT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT, MR. W.R. CAIN, FOR HIS VERY WONDERFUL HELP IN SELECTING THE FAMILY WE SALUTE TODAY AND IN GOING WITH ME TO THE FARM TO OBTAIN THE STORY I AM ABOUT TO TELL. THIS IS THE STORY OF TWO BROTHERS WHO FARM TOGETHER ON THE OLD HOME PLACE WHERE THEY GREW TO YOUNG MANHOOD, IN THE HILLSBORO COMMUNITY OF SCOTT COUNTY. THIS IS THE STORY OF MR. AND MRS. VERNER LEE GATEWOOD AND MR. AND MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD, WHO FARM 270 ACRES TOGETHER ABOUT FOUR MILES WEST OF HILLSBORO. THIS IS THE LOVELY HOME THAT BELONGS TO THE MOTHER OF THESE TWO SCOTT COUNTY FARMERS. IT IS THE HOME IN WHICH BOTH BOYS GRE UP AND WHERE MR AND MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD AND THEIR TWO CHILDREN LIVE WITH VERNER AND JOHN'S MOTHER. MR. AND MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD WERE MARRIED IN 1950. AT THE TIME MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD WAS THE HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT IN SCOTT COUNTY. WHEN I ASKED HOW SHE MET VERNER SHE RECALLED THE VERNER'S BROTHER WAS COURTIN' COUNTY AGENT CAIN'S SECRETARY AND BROUGHT VERNER ALONG ON A DOUBLE DATE AND THEY STARTED COURTEN' THEMSELVES, AND IT ENDED IN THEIR

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM_2
HOUSE

SLIDE FARM_3
CATTLE

MARRIAGE IN 1950. MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD CONTINUED AS HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT IN THE COUNTY FOR ONE YEAR THEN THEY SETTLED DOWN TO FULL TIME FARMING AND MRS. GATEWOOD BECAME A FULL FLEDGED FARM WIFE. SHE HAD GROWN UP ON A FARM NEAR NOXAPATER, MISSISSIPPI IN WINSTON COUNTY. THEY HAVE TWO CHILDREN, JANICE, AGE 5 AND VERNER RAY, AGE 4. MR. AND MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD LIVE JUST UP THE ROAD ABOUT A QUARTER OF A MILE IN THIS LOVELY LITTLE HOME. MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD GREW UP IN FOREST, THE COUNTY SEAT OF SCOTT COUNTY. THEY HAVE ONE DAUGHTER, MARIANNE. MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD TEACHES SCHOOL AND JOHN WORKS WITH BROTHER VERNER ON THEIR 270 ACRE FARM. VERNER AND JOHN GATEWOOD RECALL THAT THEIR FATHER ALWAYS RAISED CATTLE, A LOT MORE THAN THEY HAVE TODAY AND THEY RAISED QUITE A LOT OF COTTON AND CORN. TODAY THEIR COTTON ALLOTMENT IS ONLY 15 ACRES AND THEIR FARM PROGRAM IS A DIVERSIFIED ONE OF CATTLE, PASTURE ROW CROPS AND TIMBER. VERNER AND JOHN'S FATHER PASSED AWAY IN 1951, BUT BEFORE HIS DEATH HE USUALLY HAD 100 BROOD COWS ON THE FARM. TODAY VERNER AND JOHN HAVE 50 BROOD COWS BUT ARE BUILDING THEIR HERD BACK TO WHAT IT ONCE WAS.

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-4
CATTLE

SLIDE FARM-5
BULL

SLIDE FARM-6
CALVES

SLIDE FARM-7
FEEDER CATTLE

THEY TURNED UP WITH BANGS IN THEIR HERD A FEW YEARS AGO AND HAD TO DISPOSE OF A LARGE NUMBER. HOWEVER, TODAY THEIR HERD IS BANGS FREE AND THE ARE ON THE WAY BACK UP, TO 100 HEAD OF BROOD COWS. THEY FOLLOW A COMMERCIAL COW AND CALF PROGRAM AND FEED OUT A FEW OF THEIR LATE CALVES. WHILE THEIR COWS ARE ALL GRADE COWS THEY DO BREED TO A REGISTERED SHORTHORN BULL AND HAVE FOR MANY YEARS. THEY GROW ALL THEIR OWN FEED ON THE FARM AND CRUSH THEIR GRAIN AND MIX IT RIGHT ON THE FARM. THEY CULL THEIR HERD CLOSELY GETTING OUT ALL THE OLD COWS AND NON-PRODUCERS. THEY ARE SAVING ONLY THEIR BEST HEIFERS FOR HERD REPLACEMENT. THESE ARE A FEW OF THE HEIFERS BEING SAVED TO ADD TO THE HERD. THEY CREEP FEED ALL THEIR CALVES AND USE BACK RUBS FOR PARASITE CONTROL. THEIR MAIN JOB TODAY ON THE LIVESTOCK PROGRAM IS TO BUILD THE HERD AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND THIS THEY ARE DOING MORE EVERY YEAR. AS I SAID A MOMENT AGO, THE LATE CALVES ARE FED OUT FOR MARKET THEY PUT OUT ABOUT 35 ACRES OF CORN EACH YEAR AND IT MAKES ABOUT 45 BUSHELS TO THE ACRE. THEY USE HYBRID SEED AND PICK IT ALL AND FEED IT ON THE FARM. PASTURE FOR THE CATTLE CONISTS

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-8
PASTURE

OF ABOUT 140 ACRES OF PERMANENT PASTURE, MOSTLY CARPET GRASS, WHITE DUTCH, BERMUDA AND LESPEDEZ THEIR PASTURE LAND IS BROKEN UP INTO FOUR DIFFERENT PASTURES AND THEY ROTATE THEIR GRAZING. ALL PASTURES ARE LIMED AND CLIPPED FOR WEED CONTROL. TEMPORARY GRAZING CONSISTS OF 30 ACRES OF OATS AND RYE GRASS WHICH IS GRAZED UNTIL APRIL AND THEN TURNED UNDER BEFORE PLANTING THE LAND TO ~~WAXY~~ CORN OR COTTON THE OATS FOLLOW CORN AND COTTON IN THE FALL AND COTTON AND CORN AGAIN FOLLOW THE OATS IN THE SPRING. ALL OATS ARE NITRATED. VERNER AND JOHN GATEWOOD HAVE ANOTHER 18 ACRES OF OATS WHICH THEY COMBINE FOR SEED AND CUT SOME IN THE DOUGH STAGE FOR HAY. EACH YEAR THEY BALEX ABOUT 400 BALES OF LESPEDEZA AND MILLET FOR HAY. THE CATTLE GET SOME HAY IN THE WINTERTIME AND ALL DRY COWS GET CORN WITH THE FATTENING CATTLE GETTING MEAL AND COTTONSEED HULLS.

SLIDE FARM 9
SOW & PIGS

VERNER AND JOHN ALSO RAISE A FEW PIGS EACH YEAR FROM ONE BROOD SOW. THEY DO BUY A FEW FEEDER SHOATS TO FEED FOR MARKET BUT MOST OF THEIR HOG RAISING IS JUST FOR HOME USE. MOST OF THE HOGS BOUGHT ARE JUST TO PICK UP THE CORN WHICH THE COWS WASTE. ALL FARMING IS DONE

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-10
POND

SLIDE FARM-11
COTTON GIN

SLIDE FARM-12
TIMBER

MECHANICALLY ON THE GATEWOOD FARM. THEY HAVE TWO TRACTORS AND THE NECESSARY ROW CROP EQUIPMENT. THEY HIRE THEIR COMBINING AND HAY BALING DONE. WATER FOR THE LIVESTOCK IS SUPPLIED FROM THREE PONDS AND ONE CREEK THAT RUNS FOR TWO MILES THROUGH THEIR MAIN PASTURE AREA. WHILE THIS PARTICULAR POND IS USED FOR WATERING LIVESTOCK IT HAS A RECREATION USE TOO WHICH I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT A LITTLE LATER. AT ONE TIME VERNER AND JOHN GATEWOOD'S FATHER RAISED AS MUCH AS 75 ACRES OF COTTON INSTEAD OF THE PRESENT ALLOTMENT OF 15 ACRES. THEIR FATHER RUN THIS GIN FOR MANY YEARS. VERNER SAYS HE HAS WORKED IN IT SINCE HE WAS OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW WHAT TO DO. HE AND JOHN HAVE KEPT IT IN OPERATION SINCE THEIR FATHER'S DEATH. VERNER AND JOHN MAKE ABOUT A BALE TO THE ACRE ~~XXXXXX~~ ON THEIR COTTON AND FERTILIZE AND POISON AS NEEDED. EIGHT ACRES OF THE COTTON IS HANDLED ON THE SHARES AND VERNER AND JOHN HANDLE THE REST WITH SOME DAY LABOR. THEY DO NOT PLAN TO PUT ANY OF THEIR LIMITED ACREAGE IN THE SOIL BANK. JOHN AND VERNER GATEWOOD HAVE 60 ACRES OF THEIR LAND IN GOOD PINE TIMBER, AND VERNER HAS ANOTHER 40 ACRES OF HIS

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM 13
DRAINAGE DITCH

SLIDE FARM 14
COMMISARY

SLIDE FARM 15
CHICKENS

OWN. THEY THIN THEIR TIMBER, PROTECT IT FROM FIRE, DO SOME RELEASE WORK, AND SELECTIVELY HARVEST. THEY ALSO HAVE SOME GOOD MERCHANTABLE HARDWOOD TIMBER. THEIR LAND IS FENCED AND CROSS FENCED. THE HOUSE IN WHICH VERNER AND HIS FAMILY LIVE WITH MRS. GATEWOOD WAS BUILT IN THE LAST TEN YEARS BY THE BOYS AND THEIR FATHER AND WAS BUILT FROM TIMBER OFF THE PLACE. ONE OF THE REALLY IMPORTANT PROJECTS WORKED OUT BY VERNER AND JOHN HAS BEEN PROPER DRAINAGE OF THEIR LAND. THEY USE V DITCHES AND PUT IN TWO DRAINAGE DITCHES LAST YEAR AND THIS ONE THIS YEAR. THEIR LAND IS ALL TERRACED AND ALL HILL LAND IS FARMED ON THE CONTOUR. FOR MANY YEARS JOHN AND VERNER'S FATHER OPERATED THIS COMMISARY AT THE FARM. MRS. GATEWOOD TOOK IT OVER SHORTLY BEFORE HER HUSBAND'S DEATH AND STILL OPERATES IT TODAY. OUTSIDE OF HER GRANDCHILDREN I THINK SHE LOVES WORKING IN HER COMMISARY BEST. MRS VERNER GATEWOOD AND MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD BOTH PUT HEAVY EMPHASIS ON FOOD PRODUCTION. THEY EACH HAVE A FLOCK OF CHICKENS FOR EGGS AND MEAT AND BOTH HAVE A FINE GARDEN FROM WHICH THEY PRESERVE LARGE AMOUNTS OF VEGETABLES EACH SEASON.

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-16
FOOD FREEZER

SLIDE FARM-17
SEWING

SLIDE FARM-18
CHILDREN

SLIDE FARM-19
COTTAGES

THIS IS MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD FEEDING HER CHICKENS. BESIDES THE EGGS FOR HOME USE SHE SELLS A FEW FROM TIME TO TIME. BOTH MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD, WHOM WE SEE HERE, AND MRS VERNER GATEWOOD HAVE HOME FOOD FREEZERS AND THEY FREEZE MUCH OF THE FOOD THE PRESERVE. HOWEVER, THEY BOTH LOVE TO CAN IN JARS AND EACH PUTS UP ABOUT 300 JARS OF FRUIT, VEGETABLES, JAMS, JELLIES, PICKELS AND SO FORTH EACH YEAR.

MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD LOVES TO SEW AND MAKES MOST OF THE CLOTHES FOR HER TWO YOUNGSTERS. SHE ALSO MAKES MOST OF HER DRAPPERIES AND CURTAINS. SHE LOVES TO COOK AND WORK IN HER FLOWER BEDS, AND SHRUBBERY. IN FACT, FLOWERS ARE HER HOBBY. HER CHILDREN, JANICE AND VERNER RAY LOVE TO HAVE TEA PARTIES AND PLAY IN THE HOUSE AND AROUND THE FARM. VERNER AND JOHN BOTH LIKE TO HUNT AND FISH WHEN TIME WILL PERMIT. I MENTIONED A WHILE AGO THAT THE LAKE WE SAW WAS A RECREATION AREA. IT IS A TEN ACRE LAKE, BUILT BY THE BOYS AND THEIR FATHER IN 1945 AS A RECREATION AREA? IN FACT, A BROTHER WHO LIVES IN JACKSON AND A SISTER WHO LIVES IN FOREST, EACH HAVE A COTTAGE ON THE LAKE AND SPEND MANY OF THEIR WEEKENDS HERE.

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-20
FAMILY

SLIDE FARM-21
CHURCH

CAMERA ON FAMILY.

THIS LARGE BARBECUE PIT STANDS BETWEEN THE TWO COTTAGES AND THE WHOLE FAMILY LOVES TO SPEND TH THEIR LEISURE TIME AT THEIR LAKE. SINCE MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD IS TEACHING SCHOOL TODAY, JOHN VOLUNTEERED TO STAY HOME AND KEEP THE STORE GOING AND THE WORK DONE SO MR. AND MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD COULD MAKE THE TRIP TO JACKSON TO BE WITH US. HOWEVER, I DID WANT YOU TO SEE MR. AND MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD AND DAUGHTER MARRIANNE SO HERE THEY ARE. RIGHT ACROSS THE ROAD FROM JOHN GATEWOOD'S HOME IS THE LITTLE COUNTRY CHURCH WHICH THESE TWO FAMILY'S ATTEND. IT IS THE MT. OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH. BOTH FAMILIES ARE ACTIVE IN THEIR CHURCH AND ATTEND REGULARLY VERNER IS A DEACON AND TRAINING UNION DIRECTOR. MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD IS THE TEACHER OF THE ~~XXX~~ LADY'S CLASS, SECRETARY OF THE CHURCH AND PROGRAM CHAIRMAN OF THE W.M.U. MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD TEACHES THE INTERMEDIATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS AND IS PAST PRESIDENT OF THE W.M.U. MRS. VERNER GATEWOOD IS ALSO ACTIVE IN THE LILLIAN HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB AND IS PROJECT LEADER FOR THE CLUB. MRS. JOHN GATEWOOD TEACHES SCHOOL AT RINGGOLD. THE GATEWOODS ARE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI LIVESTOCK PRODUCER'S

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

DATE _____

BY _____

TIME _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

ASSOCIATION AND VERNER IS A FORMER A.S.C.
COMMITTEEMAN. THIS IS TRULY A FINE BROTHER
FARM PARTNERSHIP STORY AND I AM PROUD TO TELL I
IT TO YOU TODAY. NOW, I WANT YOU TO MEET SOME
OF THE FAMILY AND HEAR THEM TELL OTHER PARTS
OF IT.